

British Science Week 2018: Giant bubble nursery activity

NDNA has teamed up with British Science Week to launch a giant bubble nursery activity for 2018!

Resources

- 6 cups of water
- 1/2 cup of washing up liquid
- 1/2 cup of cornflour
- 1 tablespoon of baking powder
- 1 tablespoon of glycerine
- Materials to make bubble wands, e.g. string, sticks, straws, hoops.



Activity outline

1. Dissolve the cornflour in the water, stirring well, then gently stir in the remaining ingredients. Avoid creating too much froth. Allow your mixture to sit for at least an hour, stirring occasionally if you see the cornflour settling to the bottom
2. Support your children to do all the mixing and measuring
3. Whilst the mixture is settling, make your bubble wands. You can do this in a few ways; first, feed the string through the drinking straws and tie it to make a circle. The straws can act as handles when you dip them in the solution. Next, try tying string or wool to a stick, one end at the top of the stick, the other about halfway down
4. Finally, you can create varying sizes of hoops
5. Now, go outside and make giant bubbles! The first few out of the solution may pop, but persist; they will start to get stronger and stronger. The best days to do this are slightly sunny with a little breeze.

Extending the activity

The children can consider:

- How are bubbles made?
- What goes into the bubble mixture?
- How do I make the biggest bubble?
- Can you see the rainbow colours in the bubbles?
- Which bubble wand makes the best bubbles?

You could try adding colouring to the mixture or experimenting with different items that could be used as wands.

Special considerations

- Do not swallow the mixture
- Mop up any spills quickly.